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Letter dated 22 September 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to write to you on behalf of the African Group with regard to the draft resolution entitled "The situation in Libya" currently under consideration by the Security Council.

The African Group strongly believes that the approach followed in the above-mentioned draft, which puts emphasis on the enforcement aspect under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, will not bring about the much-needed change that will prevent people from fleeing dangerous situations and trying to look for safer and better living conditions in Europe.

The African Group is of the view that the international response to the problem concerning the smuggling of migrants in the Mediterranean Sea should mainly rely on our collective efforts to address the root causes, stir up our commitment to resolve conflicts, realize the development agenda and strengthen capacity-building programmes.

The African Group stresses also the urgent need for strengthened coordination, cooperation and partnership among all actors involved, including the United Nations, the African Union and the European Union, as well as the countries concerned (i.e., those of origin, transit and destination, as well as neighbouring countries), before any action is taken on the draft resolution. Equally important is the need to ensure the consent of the Libyan authorities, since the draft resolution is entitled "The situation in Libya".

Therefore, the African Group kindly requests the Security Council to put on hold the discussion of the aforementioned draft resolution until thorough and comprehensive consultations with all stakeholders concerned have been conducted.

I should be grateful if you could circulate the present letter to the members of the Security Council and as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Fodé **Seck**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations
Chair of the African Group

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